

principally of moss, lint, and down, and lined with feathers. There were several eggs—I do not now remember how many—four or five, I think, and were pure white. The nest was in a low place, not exactly a swamp or marsh, but a low bottom, grown up thickly with bushes of sweet-gum, hackberry, a bush known here as the spice tree. It was most beautifully and securely attached to the twigs.

“In 1857, Dr. Curtis was in the zenith of his reputation as a botanist and ornithologist. He died soon after the war. This is all I have to say on the subject of the *Parus minimus* being found in South Carolina. I had the male and female and a nest of eggs, all of which was burned in my office by Sherman’s army in 1865. The birds and nest I procured in the very early part of May or latter part of April. . . . I was not mistaken in my identification. I saw the birds before they were captured, knew they were rare in this region, having given some attention to the ornithology of this State. Having procured the specimens, I referred the matter to Dr. Curtis, who, when he saw them, admitted at once they were the *Parus minimus*, and said, ‘You are the first to find this bird east of the Rocky Mountains.’ Dr. Curtis doubted my correctness of identification till he saw the specimens.”—LEVERETT M. LOOMIS. *Chester, S. C.*

**Helminthophila celata in South Carolina.**—This plain-colored little bird, discovered and described by Say in 1823, was for a long time supposed to inhabit only the West, from the Mississippi to the Pacific Ocean, as in 1858 Professor Baird gives its habitat as such. But in later years the bird has been taken all along the Atlantic coast. Audubon is one of the early writers who defines its habitat correctly. I first became acquainted with this interesting little Warbler in the fall of 1884. I secured the first specimen I had seen living on the 29th November, 1884. I was attracted to it by its peculiar little chirp. It kept in the thickest of the bushes, and was not still for a second, so I had considerable difficulty in procuring it. The bird was shot on Sullivan’s Island. This island, about six miles long, and seven miles from Charleston, is a famous summer resort for the residents of Charleston. It is directly on the Atlantic Ocean, and is my favorite collecting ground for this Warbler, as well as the numberless Waders that migrate along the coast in April and May. This Warbler is a late autumnal migrant, arriving late in November, and wintering in small numbers, especially on Sullivan’s Island, as nearly all my specimens were taken on that island. They were all shot from myrtle bushes, and invariably fell when shot into the water. I therefore consider this species strictly maritime when in South Carolina. The bird reminds me of the Worm-eating Warbler, it being exceedingly active, and always keeping in the thickest bushes, searching for worms and larvæ amongst the dead leaves. I have failed to find the species five miles from Charleston, away from the coast, but have taken it nine miles from Charleston on the coast. I have taken specimens in November, December, January, February, and March. The bird appears to migrate early in the spring. They love to gambol in company with the Yellow-rumped Warblers, and

different Sparrows. I have taken males in January with the crown bright orange. My first specimen, secured November 27, was a young bird of the year, and not knowing what it was, I accordingly sent it to Mr. William Brewster for identification. He identified it as the Orange-crowned Warbler, young. I had therefore no more trouble in identifying others in the same stage. I secured in all about fifteen specimens during the winter of 1884. I may here add that *Dendroica dominica* is resident in South Carolina, as I have taken specimens in every month in the year.—ARTHUR T. WAYNE. *Charleston, S. C.*

*Dendroica dominica albilora* obtained in Chester County, South Carolina.—May 7, 1885, I shot an example of the Yellow-throated Warbler which appeared at a glance quite different from the ordinary specimens taken in this locality. After reading up the descriptions in the books and making careful comparison with a couple of skins secured by Dr. J. M. Wheaton at Columbus, Ohio, I became satisfied that I had found the western subspecies. This has been confirmed by Mr. J. A. Allen, who says, as the result of a recent examination, "The specimen of *Dendroica* is, so far as I can see, *D. dominica albilora*, it presenting all the characters of that form."

The occurrence of so many instances in South Carolina is suggestive of lines of migration of 'western' birds hitherto unnoted; a regurgitating one from the north, in fall, *viâ* the Mississippi Valley and the region lying to the southward of the Southern Alleghanies, bending upward into South Carolina; and a diverging one from the south, in spring, along the Gulf Seaboard. The isolated autumnal record of the Lark Finch in Florida seems to afford additional and corroborative evidence. While the original planting of the parent stock of the Burrowing Owl, now existing in the western part of that State, is perhaps equally indicative.—LEVERETT M. LOOMIS. *Chester, S. C.*

**Additions to the Avi-fauna of Texas.**—Mr. George H. Ragsdale writes me that he has taken in Cook Co., Texas, *Turdus ustulatus auduboni*, *Geothlypis trichas occidentalis*, *Sciurus naevius notabilis*, *Geothlypis macgillivrayi*, *Chondestes grammacus strigatus*, *Spizella monticola ochracea*, *Spizella socialis arizonæ*, and *Porzana jamaicensis*. Mr. N. C. Brown has previously recorded *Turdus auduboni*\* and *Spizella arizonæ*† from Kendall, Co.; the others appear to be new to the State.—WILLIAM BREWSTER. *Cambridge, Mass.*

**Birds New to the District of Columbia.**—In addition to the Prairie Chicken (*Cupidonia cupido*), the capture of which was cited by Mr. Robert Ridgway in 'Forest and Stream,' of April 9, and the White-throated Warbler (*Helminthophila leucobronchialis*), noted by Mr. William Palmer

\* Bull. N. O. C. Vol. VII, p. 38.

† Ibid., Vol. VII, p. 127.